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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO

CD NO 25X1A

COUNTRY

SUBJECT

PLACE

ACQUIRED

DATE OF

Korea

Communications Unit of the Ministry of Home

DATE DISTR.

5 Sept. 1950

Affairs, North Korea

NO. OF PAGES

3

NO. OF ENCLS.

3

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SUPPLEMENT TO

REPORT NO.

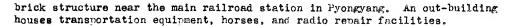
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- 1. A separate communication unit is maintained under the Defense Guard Bureau (Kyongpi-kuk 警備局) of the North Korean Ministry of Home Affairs, to provide direct contact between Pyongyang headquarters and field units of the Border Guard Corps (Kyongpi-dae), to recruit and train communications personnel for assignment to the field, and to support cross-border intelligence and guerrilla operations. It consists of two elements with complementary functions: a central transmitting unit, maintained in a secure location in Tyongyang; and a communications battalion, organized along military lines and charged with training of personnel and maintenance of field facilities.
- The central transmitting station, in the compound of the Pyongyang City Reservoir (see Attachment B), was completed under direction of the Ministry of Home Affairs in August 1948. It is an all-concrete structure, surrounded, as are the neighboring reservoir and a city police installation, by a barbedwire barricade. Armed sentries are posted at the two gates and at regular intervals around the barricade. A five member permanent staff at the station is headed by a Captain O. Hwan-kyu (吳 凝 奎)。 Equipment includes four short-wave transmitter-receiver sets, (types and nower unstated); three deltamatch antennas; a transformer with a capacity of 2 KVA; two standby generators. one of which produces direct current, of 2 kilowatts maximum output each. Phone facilities are maintained for normal transmission on 4560 kilocycles. Four direct telephone lines connect the station with the Defense Guard Bureau and with headquarters of the Communications Battalion. Two Lines, installed by the Ministry of Communications, give access to the regular communications network in North Forea. Radio equipment is predominantly of Japanese make, and is badly in need of replacement. Irregularities in line voltage cause frequent tube burn-outs. The unit functions as the central relay station for all official messages between the Ministry of Mome Affairs and border constabulary installations throughout North Morea. A secondary responsibility is to maintain radio contact with guerrilla, sabotage and intelligence teams dispatched to the South.
- The Communications Battalion was activated in its present form on 1 May 1949. Its functions had previously been performed on a smaller scale by a subsidiary, and essentially non-military, section of the Defense Guard Bureau. Headquarters are in the former Japanese "Railroad Apartment Building." a two-stony

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-2-



(a) Organization

Currently commanded by a Lt. Col. NAM, Song-tu (南星斗), the battalion comprises three training companies plus technical, administrative and cultural support units. The first and second companies, concerned respectively with advanced telephone-telegraph and radio training, are composed of non-commissioned trainees. The third, which provides basic training in both telephone-telegraph and radio, is made up of recruits and privates. A security officer with the rank of captain is assigned at the command level by the Political Security Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs. Total strength, excepting maintenance personnel, averages 250; of this number about twenty officers and fifteen non-commissioned officers constitute the permanent cadre.

(b) Functions*

In addition to its training responsibilities, the battalion is directed in an emergency to take full charge of front-line communications. Telephone and telegraph units are to establish and maintain contact between forward and rear echelons of the Kyongri-dae in the battle area, while mobile radio teams are to proceed to the front for the purpose of maintaining a direct communication link between Pyongyang and the forward commanders.

(c) Recruitment and Training

Trainees are recruited from among enlisted personnel assigned to communications companies of the three Kyongpi-dae brigades. Party membership and an outstanding record are prerequisites to selection for battalion training. Non-commissioned officers who have had substantial communications experience are assigned to the first and second companies, where they are given intensive training either in telephone-telegraph or radio techniques, supplemented by courses in allied subjects. Upon completion of three months' training, they become eligible for direct commission as communications officers and for reassignment to field units of the Kyongpidae. Members of the third company receive a three-month basic course in radio and telephone-telegraphy, following which they may be given non-commissioned rank and enrolled in one of the more advanced courses.

Members of the first and second commanies receive instruction in political theory, telephone-telegraph or radio operating techniques, mathematics, magnetism and electricity, geography, switch-board operation, military science, non-electric machine handling techniques, and physical training. The curriculum for members of the third company is essentially the same, though restricted to an introductory plane.

Special re-briefing courses are conducted yearly for communications personnel on field assignment. These last one-and-one-half months and attendance is compulsory for all officers and men.

(d) Equipment

Electrical equipment assigned to the Battalion includes the following:

- 5 portable short-wave transmitters (VT #225, #221); two US-made, three Japanese made;
- stationary short-wave transmitters model and nower unstated,

 Japanese-made;
- 5 short-wave receivers Japanese-made: "MU-62", "MU-65", "BI-4";

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-3-

	5	radio-telephone sets	(VT #30, #1E1); US-made;
	6	radio-telephone sets	(VT #1A5, #1L4; US-made #300;
	4	oscillators	(VT #46, #606, #80); for training purposes;
	2	generators	converted to produce "B"-volts 700, "A"-volts 7;
	2	transformers	output: "B"-volts 500, "A"-volts 24;
	1	aumolifier	specifications unstated;
	s	telephone switchboards	Japanese-made; 12-circuit and 20-circuit;
	21	telephone sets	US-made; #ET8;
	15	telephone sets	Japanese-made; type #92;
	3	telephone switchboards	USSR-made; "Ra" type, 10- circuit;
	4	loud-speakers	one 12", three 10";
	3	hand generators	Japanese-made; "94" type; "B"-volts 500, "A"-volts 7;
	5	line testers	US and Japanese-made;
	15	antenna units	
	10	transmitting and receiving crystals	4560 KC , 4580KC, 3990KC;
	20	spare tubes	VT #225, #23, #510B, #6F6, #5Z3, #80;
55,00	00 m.	military communication wire	half US-made; half USSR-made;
	51	signal flags	
	300	batteries	1-volt, 5-volt;
	60	batteries	60-volts "B";
	20	sending keys	

25X1A

The battalion is equipped also with 36 sub-machine guns, 150 carbines, 14 infantry rifles and 6 pistols.

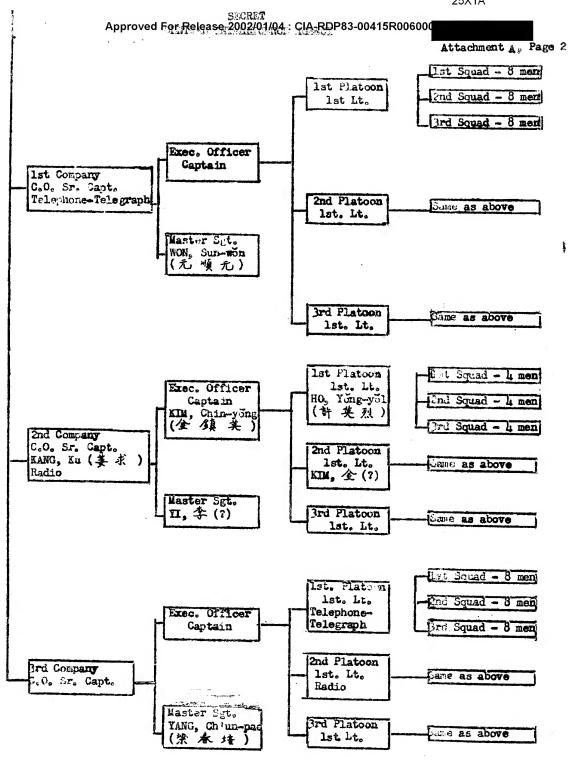
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current duties other than training. The need for direct telephone contact with the central transmitting station and the maintenance of its own signal center, apparently operated on a shift basis (see Attachment A), would seem to indicate some regular relaying function.

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- 1. Organization chart
- 2. Map
- 3. Plan

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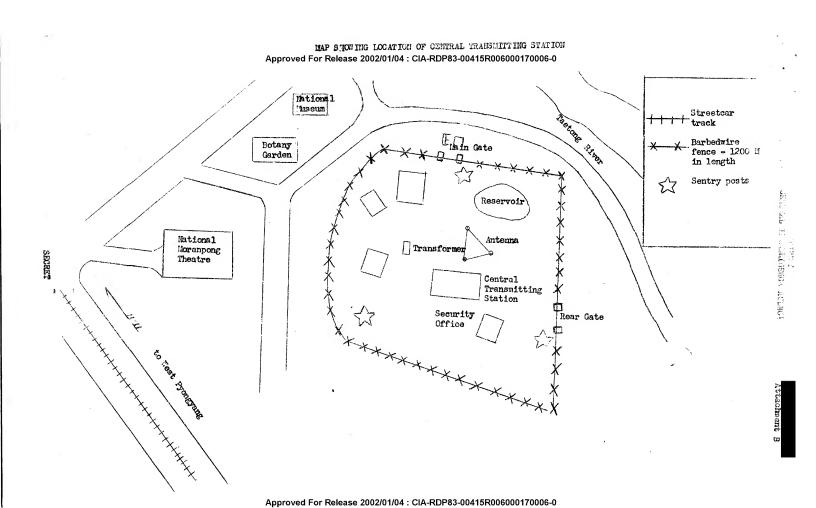


CHART OF
Approved For Release 2002/01/04: CIA-RDP83-00415R006000170006-0
INTERIOR OF CENTRAL TRANSMITTING STATION

